



USS OLIVER HAZARD PERRY (FFG-7)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
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MIAMI, FL 34092

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From: Commanding Officer, USS OLIVER HAZARD PERRY (FFG 7)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard,  
Washington DC 20374

Subj: Command History

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) Command History, Calender Year 1981

1. In accordance with reference (a), the Command History for USS OLIVER HAZARD PERRY (FFG 7) for Calender Year 1981 is forwarded as enclosure (1).

  
RICHARD F. BEAL

Copy to:  
COMNAVSURFLANT  
COMCRUDESGRU TWELVE  
COMDESRON EIGHT

COMMAND HISTORY USS OLIVER HAZARD PERRY (FFG 7) JANUARY - DECEMBER 1981

On 1 January 1981, USS OLIVER HAZARD PERRY (FFG 7), CDR H. S. STODDARD Commanding Officer, was moored in homeport Mayport, Florida. The holiday leave period ended on 12 January, when the Ship got underway for 10 days of operations in the Jacksonville operation area. The majority of evolutions during that period were conducted with USS FORRESTAL (CV 59). The Ship returned to Mayport on 21 January.

During the period 2-6 February the Ship's first Human Resource Availability (HRAV) was conducted on board. The Ship was visited on 5 February by Navy JAG, RADM JENKINS, on 10 February by the Joint Coordination Committee, headed by BGEN JOHNSON, USMC and on 20 February by RADM NEEL (OP-03B).

The ship was underway during 25-27 February for local exercises in company with USS NIMITZ (CVN 68). The following Flag officers were embarked aboard OLIVER HAZARD PERRY during the month of February:

1-5 and 8-20 COMDESRON EIGHT  
1-8 and 12-14 COMCRUDESGRU TWELVE

From March 2nd through the 5th, the OLIVER HAZARD PERRY was Host Ship for the visit of the West German Warship ROMMEL.

OLIVER HAZARD PERRY conducted local operations and drills in the Jacksonville operation area 9-12 March and on 14 March departed Mayport for deperming in Norfolk, VA. Deperming operations commenced after mooring in the Elizabeth River Crib early on the morning of 16 March and continued thru the 19th. After spending the week-end at the Norfolk Naval Station Destroyer Piers, the Ship proceeded to the Yorktown, VA, Weapons Station for an ordnance offload. Departing Yorktown on 24 March, the ship returned to Mayport on the 26th and began preparations for the upcoming INSURV.

On 1 April the Ship participated in a Safety Review which was conducted by the Safety Center, Norfolk, VA.

CAPT ROGERS, COMDESRON EIGHT, broke his flag on OLIVER HAZARD PERRY on 7 April 1981. The Commanding Officer traveled to Washington, DC on 9 April to present a Post Deployment Briefing to VADM ROWDEN and several other officers in OP-03.

On 13 April, the OLIVER HAZARD PERRY began an Underway Material Inspection (UMI) INSURV inspection. This was the first UMI on board a PERRY class ship and included two days of underway time to facilitate the inspection. RADM John D. BULKELEY, President of the Board of INSURV was aboard 13-16 April as Senior Inspector.

On 16 April, OLIVER HAZARD PERRY hosted the return of USS CLARK (FFG 11) from Post Shakedown Availability which was conducted in Bath, Maine.

The Ship established another first on 21 April when it commenced a Selected Restricted Availability, the first ship of the FFG 7 class to do so. The contract for the availability was awarded to Atlantic Marine Inc. On 29 April, the Ship provided a tour for 25 senior officers and engineers from NAVELEX.

The month of May commenced for OLIVER HAZARD PERRY moored to pier D-4-1 at the Naval Station, Mayport, Florida with CAPT ROGERS, COMDESRON EIGHT embarked.

On 5 May OLIVER HAZARD PERRY's Sailor of the Year, GSE2 (b) (6) was presented the Sailor of the Year award for Destroyer Squadron EIGHT by CAPT ROGERS, COMDESRON EIGHT.

On 14 May the ship sponsored a tour of the ship by 70 first grade students from a local Jacksonville school.

Admiral Whittle, Chief of Naval Material arrived at 1100 on 19 May to view SRA progress and to have a working luncheon in the Wardroom.

On 28 May the Naval Station conducted a Hurricane Drill in which all ships participated.

The month of June began with OLIVER HAZARD PERRY moored at the Naval Station Mayport, Florida.

COMCRUDESGRU TWELVE (RADM KINNEBREW) visited the Ship on 4 June to present the 1980 CNO LAMPS/Ship Safety Award. Also presented were several departmental excellence awards (ASW, Communications, Engineering, Damage Control, Harpoon, AAW, EW, Gunnery).

The SRA period officially ended on Friday the 5th of June. On that same day, the 1st annual DC Olympics were conducted in Mayport and OLIVER HAZARD PERRY was the overall winner of the event. On the 8th the Ship got underway at 1330 for the Weapons Station, Charleston, South Carolina. The Ship moored at the Naval Weapons Station at 0830 the following morning and completed an onload of missiles, 76mm gun and small arms ammunition. At 1800 the Ship got underway from the Weapons Station and returned to the Naval Station, Mayport, Florida on the morning of the 10th.

On the morning of the 12th at 0800 the Ship got underway with the USS VOGEL enroute to COMPTUEX 3-81, an exercise designed as a workup for the impending deployment. This exercise consisted of multiple warfare specialty drills including ASW, gunshoots, UNREPS and Engineering and Damage Control drills. It was highlighted by a missile exercise which was conducted on the morning of the 17th with PERRY expending (4) four Surface to Air telemetry missiles.

A brief respite was provided as the Ship arrived at San Juan, Puerto Rico on the morning of the 22nd, and departed on the morning of the 24th.

The ship conducted its final UNREP of the exercise during the morning of the 29th with the USS SEATTLE and was detached to proceed to port shortly thereafter.

In preparation for pre-deployment weapon systems checks, the Ship arrived at Port Everglades, FL on 30 June at 1600 and remained there until 3 July.

At 0700 on 3 July the ship got underway and conducted a 7 hour transit to Freeport, Bahamas. An open ship for visitors was held on July 4th from 1230 to 1600 and the Ship was Full Dressed to commemorate our nation's birthday.

The afternoon of 6 July found the Ship getting underway enroute to the "AUTC Range", Andros Island, Bahamas arriving there at 0700 on 7 July.

The Autec Range personnel boarded via small boat transfer and departed the ship at 1800 with all tests having been completed. The Ship then commenced the transit back to Mayport, Florida.

A customs inspection was held on the morning of 8 July, with the Ship arriving in Mayport, Florida at 0830 on the morning of 9 July, mooring at pier Delta 2-2. This return marked the commencement of Pre-Overseas Movement (pre-deployment) preparations.

The first weekend after our return the Ship was designated as Mayport visit ship hosting a variety of small tour groups and individuals.

During the week of 13-17 July the Ship participated in various "SUMMERFEST 81" festivities including the "Motor Whale Boat Regatta" in which OLIVER HAZARD PERRY placed third. Included in the week's activities were visits aboard by enlisted detailers for almost all ratings. In addition, the Ship was administered a Combat Systems Readiness Review this same week in preparation for deployment. A pre-deployment brief was conducted on 17 July at 1900 for dependents and crew members.

At 0800 on 29 July a Commanding Officer's Personnel Inspection was conducted for all hands. Later that day, Captain Chandler, COMDESRON TWO ZERO, boarded the ship for a pre-deployment visit departing at about 1400.

The month of August 1981 commenced with OLIVER HAZARD PERRY moored to pier Delta at the Naval Station, Mayport, Florida and was dedicated to preparations for the COMDESRON EIGHT Change of Command.

A Change of Command ceremony for Destroyer Squadron EIGHT was held on board at 1000 on the 3rd. Captain S. Duich relieved Captain R. Rogers as COMDESRON EIGHT. After being relieved, Captain Rogers was frocked to his present rank of RADM by RADM Kinnebrew, COMCRUDESGRU TWELVE. Following the ceremony a reception was held on board in the port helo hanger.

The ship left Mayport on the morning of 4 August to conduct two days of sea trials arriving back in Mayport on the afternoon of the 5th. During the underway operations HSL-36 DET 1 flew aboard for pre-deployment qualifications. In addition, the gun was test fired and various other Combat Systems were tested.

An ammo onload commenced at 0830 on the morning of the 7th and lasted most of the morning.

The 10th and 11th of August were utilized to conduct final preparations and stores on-load prior to departure on deployment. OLIVER HAZARD PERRY departed on the second deployment to the Mediterranean on the morning of 12 August in company with USS VOGEL (FF 1047). Shortly after clearing the sea buoy "2 STJ", the LAMPS detachment helo (#341) was flown aboard.

General drills were conducted during a major portion of our first full day at sea on the 13th.

Early on the morning of 14 August, OLIVER HAZARD PERRY rendezvoused with units from Charleston and later in the day joined units from Norfolk. The OTC for the transit was CAPT CHANDLER, COMDESRON TWENTY, embarked on USS KING (DDG 41).

Other units present included USS D. B. BEARY (FF 1085), USS DAVIS (DD 937), and USS SEATTLE (AOE 3). All units comprised TU 20.6.6.

On the morning of the 14th at about 0700 the ship went alongside USS SEATTLE (AOE-3) for our first UNREP of the deployment.

During our transit between Mayport and Rota, Spain, exercises conducted included Over the Horizon Targeting, gunfire, shiphandling, UNREPS, Publications usage, communications and engineering drills. QM2 (b) (6) was judged the ultimate winner of the Task Unit celestial NAV competition.

Following INCHOP to the SIXTH Fleet, the Ship moored port side to berth P2B3 Naval Station, Rota, Spain on the morning of 22 August and conducted a turnover with USS TALBOT (FFG 4). The Ship departed Rota, Spain on the morning of the 25th in company with USS VOGUE (FF 1047) for a two day transit to Benidorm, Spain. Enroute drills included major emphasis on engineering casualty control.

The Ship anchored in the harbor at Benidorm, Spain at 0730 on the 27th for four days of excellent liberty. When OLIVER HAZARD PERRY departed on the morning of the 31st for Naples, Italy many crew members left behind new-found friends from many of the countries of Europe.

September commenced with OLIVER HAZARD PERRY enroute to Naples from Benidorm Spain. Enroute training included LAMPS/Ship exercises and Command Training Team sessions. Special sea and anchor detail was stationed early on the morning of 2 September and the ship accomplished its sole Mediterranean style moor in Naples, Italy at 0830. A Ship's party was held while in Naples on the 3rd and the USAF provided two drug detection dogs for a random search of the ship.

The morning of 4 September found the Ship getting underway for operations with the USS NIMITZ (CTF 60 embarked) in the Tyrrhenian Sea. Early on the morning of 5 September, the two ships transited the Straits of Messina for the first of eight transits during the deployment.

Having joined with other SIXTH Fleet units (USS TEXAS, USS MISSISSIPPI, USS BIDDLE, USS KING) operating off the Coast of Sardinia, the Ship participated in a missile exercise firing one telemetry missile on 9 September. The remainder of the day was spent hoisting aboard four target drones.

A cake cutting ceremony was conducted on 10 September in remembrance of the Battle of Lake Erie in which OLIVER HAZARD PERRY's famous words "We have met the enemy and they are ours" were penned.

Friday, 11 September was an early day for OLIVER HAZARD PERRY, commencing at 0500 with a VERTREP from USNS SIRIUS followed by an UNREP with USS DETROIT. Following the Logistics Replenishment the Ship was detached to

proceed independently for a port visit in Cesme, Turkey 14 through 17 September. While in Cesme, crewmembers participated in festivities celebrating the birthday of ATATURK, known as the Father of Modern Turkey. In addition, the Ship conducted a Safety Standown on the morning of 17 and 18 September.

Following the visit, the Ship departed for Souda Bay, Greece arriving on the 18th for a brief refueling stop with an early afternoon departure.

The Ship then proceeded westward into the Tyrrhenian Sea to rendezvous with the USS NIMITZ, USS MISSISSIPPI, USS KING and Italian Frigate SAGITTARIO to commence exercise "Display Determination 81" a multi national exercise. This exercise included UNREPS with USS DETROIT on the 23rd the USNS MISSISSINAWA during the early evening of 26 September and the USS DETROIT again on the 28th. The exercise proceeded to the east across the Ionian Sea toward an Amphibious assault staged in Dogenbay, Turkey. As a result of OLIVER HAZARD PERRY's extended participation in the exercise, a port visit to Izmir, Turkey was deleted.

The ship again refueled from the USNS WACCAMAW on 2 October. This UNREP was terminated when the USS NIMITZ and OLIVER HAZARD PERRY had to initiate an emergency breakaway as a result of the danger imposed by a merchant ship maneuvering in front of the three ship formation.

Another refueling and VERTREP was conducted with the USS DETROIT on the afternoon of 6 October. The ship was then detached to proceed to Taormina, Sicily for a routine port visit. Late on the 6th the Ship was diverted to proceed to a point 100 miles north of Alexandria, Egypt as part of the Eastern MED contingency operation following the death of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat. Enroute the Ship joined with the USS KING and USS DONALD B. BEARY. While participating in the EMED contingency operations, OLIVER HAZARD PERRY was attached to CTF 61 to provide escort services for the amphibious task force operating with the USS SAIPAN (LHA 2). The ship participated in this operation until 25 October when it was detached to proceed to Gaeta, Italy.

In the interim, CDR Richard F. BEAL, Prospective Commanding Officer, was flown aboard on the 22nd of October, and CAPT M. BOORDA COMDESRON 22, embarked on the USS COONTZ, boarded the ship via Motor Whale Boat for a visit on the afternoon of 23 October. OLIVER HAZARD PERRY arrived in Gaeta, Italy on the morning of the 27th and moored alongside the USS PUGET SOUND (AD 38) for IMAV-4. Later in the day USS CONOLLY (DD 979) moored outboard of OLIVER HAZARD PERRY.

On the 28th a Change of Command was held on board. CDR Richard F. BEAL relieved CDR Howard S. STODDARD as Commanding Officer of OLIVER HAZARD PERRY. The guest speaker was COMSIXTHFLT, VADM William ROWDEN.

October ended with PERRY still moored alongside USS PUGET SOUND in Gaeta, Italy in the early phases of IMAV-IV.

On the 3rd of November the ship was visited by the Commandant of the Gaeta Military Region and on the 9th VADM ROWDEN again came aboard for a tour and informal briefing on the capabilities of the FFG 7 Class.

On the 9th and 10th, all work centers participated in a shipwide Safety Standdown to identify and correct any discrepancies prior to the underway period.

IMAV IV was completed on the 10th; however, continuing casualties to the Low Pressure Air Compressors delayed the Ship's departure. The morning of the 13th found OLIVER HAZARD PERRY getting underway enroute to exercise "ILES D'OR" a NATO exercise hosted by the French Navy. This exercise was conducted mainly in the northern portion of the Gulf of Lion. A light line transfer/Conning exercise was conducted during the afternoon of the 15th with the French Destroyer "SUFFREN", the 17th was highlighted by a gunnery exercise in the morning followed by an UNREP with the French oiler MEUSE. Later in the day, OLIVER HAZARD PERRY, along with three units of the French Navy anchored in Rade D'Hayeres off the Coast of France. The following morning all units got underway for the second phase of "ILES D'OR". The exercise was completed on the morning of the 25th and following an 8 hour transit at 30+ knots, OLIVER HAZARD PERRY rendezvoused with USS KALAMAZOO for the final LOGREP of the deployment. Following the replenishment, the Ship was detached to proceed to Barcelona, Spain for a seven day port visit which commenced on the morning of the 27th of November.

The month of December commenced with OLIVER HAZARD PERRY enjoying a port visit in Barcelona, Spain. On the 2nd at 1000 a tour of the Ship was provided for a group of Spanish Naval Officers who are involved in the planning effort for Spain's purchase of FFG 7 Class Ships.

The afternoon of 2 December marked a historic occasion when four members of the Spanish Congress visited the ship for a tour and formal luncheon. These were provided at the request of the American Consul General, Mr. (b) (6). (b) (6) This was believed to be the first instance of a visit by these ranking members of the Socialist Party aboard a US Navy warship. In a subsequent message to CINUSNAVEUR and COMSECONDFLT, Mr. (b) (6) expressed extreme pleasure at the success of the visit. The OLIVER HAZARD PERRY departed Barcelona on 5 December and arrived in Rota on the 7th.

Another group of Spanish Naval Officers toured the ship on the 9th in order to familiarize themselves with the equipment on board.

The ship was busy during the morning of the 11th conducting a turnover with the USS COMTE DE GRASSE and USS PETERSON. As afternoon approached all hands were making preparations for getting underway for the transit home!

At 1530, OLIVER HAZARD PERRY got underway for Mayport, FL in company with seven other units of the U. S. Atlantic Fleet (USS SEATTLE (AOE 3), USS KING (DDG 41), USS VOGEL (FF 1047), USS SEMMES (DDG 18), USS DAVIS (DD 937), USS PHARRIS (FF 1094), USS D. B. BEARY (FF 1045). COMDESRON TWENTY was embarked on USS DAVIS.

All ships were refueled during the afternoon of 13 December, and again on the morning of the 15th, morning of the 17th and afternoon of the 19th.

Early in the evening of 15 December, all hands were called upon to assist when OLIVER HAZARD PERRY was an active participant in a Search and Rescue

Operation following the crash of the LAMPS helo attached to USS DONALD B. BEARY.. Although the search lasted well into the early hours the next day, the units were unable to locate the aircrewman who was presumed lost when the helo sank.

In preparation for our return to CONUS a Customs Sweep of the Ship was conducted on the 16th.

The Ship stationed the special Sea and Anchor detail at 1315 on the 21st of December making all preparations for entering our homeport of Mayport, FL, mooring starboard side to Pier D-2-1 at 1400.

As soon as the Ship was cleared by customs officials, liberty call signaled the beginning of the post-deployment and holiday standdown period. The standdown continued through the second week of January 1982.